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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

KOBAYASHI et al — Atty. Ref.: 1417-453

Serial No. 10/783,021 — TC/A.U.: 1755

Filed: February 23, 2004 — Examiner:

For: CATALYST FOR DECOMPOSITION OF HYDROCARBONS, PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE CATALYST, AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING HYDROGEN USING THE CATALYST

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July 15, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Attention is invited to the attached copy of a European Search Report dated June 3, 2004 with respect to this disclosure and a copy of each document cited in it. A completed Form PTO-1449 is also attached.

Official citation and consideration of all the attached documents is requested. Please return to the undersigned a copy of the attached PTO-1449 with the examiner's initials in the left column [MPEP §609] with the next communication.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained herein was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months from the filing date of this statement [see 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) (1)].

The filing of an Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability [37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g) & (h)] or that no other material information exists.

Respectfully submitted,

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

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ATTY. DOCKET NO.	SERIAL NO.
1417-453	10/783,021
APPLICANT	
KOBAYASHI et al	
FILING DATE	**TC/A.U.**
February 23, 2004	1755

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		3,932,534	1/1976	Fukunaga et al			
		5,653,774	8/1997	Bhattacharyya et al			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES	TRANSLATION NO
		11-276893	10/1999	Japan			ABST	
		1 285 692 A1	2/2003	EP				
		WO 03/099436 A1	12/2003	PCT				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent pages, etc.)

		DATABASE WPI Section Ch, Week 200003 Derwent Publications Ltd., London, GB; Class E17, AN 2000-026684; XP002280393 and JP 11 276893 A, 12 October 1999.

*Examiner		Date Considered	

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to application.